Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	WC Docke	et No. 02-60
Request for Review and/or Waiver by	Ś	did strategica e	
Southside Community Services Board)		
of Funding Decisions by the)		
Universal Service Administrative Compa	ny)		

REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND/OR WAIVER BY SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD OF FUNDING DECISIONS BY THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

Pursuant to sections 54.719 and 54.722 of the Commission's rules,¹ Southside

Community Services Board² (Southside) hereby respectfully requests a review of a Universal

Service Administrative Company (USAC) decision to deny Funding Year (FY) 2016

applications³ submitted by Southside under the Rural Health Care ("RHC") Telecommunications

Program.⁴

Southside believes this appeal is simply the result of a misunderstanding. USAC denied Southside's four requests for funding because it found that Southside did not provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that it complied with the Commission's competitive bidding rules. To the contrary, Southside complied with the Commission's competitive bidding process. For its

⁴⁷ C.F.R. §§ 54.719(b), (c); id. § 54.722(a).

² HCP Numbers 28296, 30947, 38311, and 38319.

³ Funding Request Numbers 1688066, 1688063, 1688069, 1688068, 1694413, 1694411, 1694417, and 1694415. *See also* Exhibit 1 for the FRNs at issue.

⁴ Exhibit 2, *e.g.*, email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, October 10, 2016 (USAC October 2016 Denial); Exhibit 3, *e.g.*, email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, December 6, 2016 (USAC December 2016 Denial). We have only provided one example of each denial because the remaining emails are the same for each set of FRNs.

FY 2016 applications, however, Southside accidentally provided to USAC a copy of the undated bid evaluation matrix from FY 2014 competitive bidding processes instead of the one bid it received in response to its FY 2016 competitive bidding processes. Southside tried to tell USAC multiple times that it had made a mistake, but USAC did not understand Southside's attempted clarifications. Ultimately, USAC denied Southside's funding requests because Southside did not provide the one FY 2016 bid, even though Southside did not realize USAC was seeking a copy of the bid until it received USAC's denial of its appeal. Southside herein provides a copy of the one bid it received in FY 2016 and urges the Commission to direct USAC to accept it as the requested documentation of the competitive bidding process.

Therefore, Southside respectfully requests that the Commission reverse USAC's finding and remand the applications to USAC for further review. If the Commission nevertheless believes there has been a violation of Commission rules, Southside respectfully requests a waiver of those rules to the extent necessary to grant the requested relief.

I. BACKGROUND

Established in 1972 as a public, non-profit organization, the Southside Community

Services Board (Southside) provides behavior health, intellectual/developmental disability and substance abuse services to the residents of Southside Virgina in Halifax, Mecklenburg, and Brunswick Counties. All Southside programs and services are licensed by the Virginia

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Funding for the many services provided through Southside comes from local, state, and federal governments and consumer fees. Southside services are provided at program sites or at the individual's or family's residence located throughout the three-county catchment area.

On March 18, 2016, Southside submitted three FCC Forms 465 for Funding Year 2016 that requested service and initiated a competitive bidding process.⁵ On April 6, 2016, Southside submitted a Form 465 also requesting an additional telecommunication circuit for Funding Year 2016.⁶ After the competitive bidding process, Southside selected TeleQuality Communications, Inc. (TeleQuality), a non-dominant competitive telecommunications carrier, as its service provider. Southside proceeded to file its FCC Forms 466 on August 31, 2016. As supporting documentation for the FCC Forms 466, Southside also accidentally submitted copies of its undated bid evaluation matrix from funding year 2014.⁷

⁵ Exhibit 4, FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161941 (filed March 18, 2016); FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161942 (filed March 18, 2016); FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161943 (filed March 18, 2016).

⁶ Exhibit 5, FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43162477 (filed April 6, 2016).

⁷ Exhibit 6, Southside Community Services Board, Bid Evaluation Matrix. However, as noted below, the bid evaluation matrix was from funding year 2014, even though it was not dated. The bid evaluation matrix from Funding Year 2014 provided scores for three service providers: TeleQuality (dba RHT), GCR Telecommunications, Inc., and Network Services Solutions, LLC. These three service providers submitted bids in 2014, but TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider in Funding Year 2016. *See* Exhibit 7, Letter from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, dated Dec. 8, submitted Dec. 9, 2016 (Southside Appeal).

On September 30, 2016, Southside received a request for information from USAC.8

USAC asked Southside to provide copies of the bids it received in response to its Forms 465, as well as copies of any other documentation related to the competitive bidding process.9 Southside responded that TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider.10 On October 6, 2016, USAC sent a follow-up request for information seeking copies of Southside's competitive bidding documentation.11 In response, Southside reiterated that TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider. Additionally, Southside noted that it had inadvertently submitted a FY 2014 bid evaluation matrix with its FCC Forms 466.12 The bid evaluation matrix from 2014 provided scores for three service providers: TeleQuality, GCR Telecommunications, Inc., and Network Services Solutions, LLC. However, Southside explained that TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider in Funding Year 2016.13

On October 10, 2016, USAC denied Southside's funding requests for support under the RHC Telecommunications Program (Telecom Program) for Funding Year 2016. 14 In the denial,

⁸ Exhibit 8, *e.g.*, email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, September 30, 2016 (USAC Sept. 30 Request for Information). The actual information request is in Exhibit 9, along with the response. All of the requests to Southside were the same, so we have provided only one example.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ Exhibit 9, responses from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, October 6, 2016 in USAC Portal (Southside Oct. 6 Initial Response).

Exhibit 10, e.g., email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, October 6, 2016 (USAC Oct. 6 Request for Information). The actual information request is in Exhibit 11, along with the response. All of the requests to Southside were the same, so we have provided only one example.

¹² Exhibit 11, responses from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, October 6, 2016, in USAC's portal (Southside Oct. 6 Second Response).

¹³ Exhibit 7, Southside Appeal. Southside had repeatedly asked USAC to disregard the 2014 competitive bidding documents it had inadvertently submitted with its 2016 funding requests. *Id.* TeleQuality submitted a bid on April 29, 2016. Exhibit 12, TeleQuality bid response.

USAC found Southside did not submit copies of the bids received in response to Southside's request for services and concluded that Southside did not comply with the competitive bidding rules.¹⁵

On November 4, 2016, Southside tried again to seek funding for FY 2016 for the same four circuits by filing four new FCC Forms 466. Southside thought that if it filed the Forms 466 again—this time omitting the incorrect FY 2014 competitive bidding matrix—it would eliminate the confusion regarding the competitive bidding process. On December 6, 2016, however, USAC issued a denial of Southside's new funding requests for support. USAC found that because Southside's new funding requests involved the same services, at the same location, and were supported by the same documentation, these funding requests were duplicates of the funding requests USAC previously denied. USAC also noted that, for the new funding requests, Southside's FCC Forms 466 indicated that Southside did not receive any bids associated with the FCC Forms 465 while Southside had previously said it did receive bids. For these reasons, USAC denied the new funding requests.

On December 9, 2016, Southside filed an appeal requesting USAC to reverse its funding decisions for FY 2016 for both sets of funding requests.²¹ More than two years later—on March

¹⁴ Exhibit 2, USAC October 2016 Denial.

¹⁵ Id.

¹⁶ See Exhibit 1 for the FRNs at issue.

¹⁷ Exhibit 3, USAC December 2016 Denial. Additionally, USAC found that the FRNs for the new funding requests were associated with the same FCC Forms 465 and the same competitive bidding processes as the previously denied funding requests. *Id.*

¹⁸ Id.

¹⁹ Id.

²⁰ Id.

²¹ Southside appealed the USAC denials issued on October 10, 2016, and December 6, 2016. Exhibit 7, Southside Appeal to USAC. The HCPs at issue in the appeal are: HCP Number 28296, Southside

15, 2019—USAC issued a denial of Southside's appeal finding Southside "did not provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that it complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules." Specifically, USAC found Southside did not submit copies of the bids it received in response to the FY 2016 request for services. 23

Appeals of USAC decisions are due within 60 days.24 As such, this appeal is timely filed.

II. USAC SHOULD REVERSE ITS DENIAL BECAUSE SOUTHSIDE DID NOT VIOLATE THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS

As described above, USAC found that Southside did not provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that it complied with the Commission's competitive bidding rules. To the contrary, Southside adhered to and followed the Commission's competitive bidding rules. Any documentation errors concerning Southside's funding requests are the result of a miscommunication between USAC and Southside.

The Commission's competitive bidding process requires eligible health care providers (HCPs) to complete and post an FCC Form 465, wait at least 28 days before selecting a service provider, and then submit an FCC Form 466 certifying that the services selected are the most cost-effective.²⁵ As required by Commission rules, Southside completed and submitted its FCC Forms 465 requesting service for Funding Year 2016 and initiating a 28-day competitive bidding process. In response to its request for services, Southside received one bid from TeleQuality.²⁶

Community Services Board; HCP Number 30947, Southside Community Services Board, HCP Number 38311, Southside Community Services Board – HDTC/CSP South Boston; HCP Number 38319, Southside Community Services Board – MCSP South Hill.

²² Exhibit 13, USAC Appeal Denial at 1.

²³ Id.

²⁴ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.719(b), 54.720(a).

²⁵ 47 C.F.R. § 54.603 (Commission's competitive bidding and certification requirements); *see also* 47 C.F.R. § 54.615(a), (c)(7); Form 466 Instructions, Rural Health Care Universal Service Mechanism, OMB 3060-0804, at 1-2 (FCC Form 466 Instructions).

After completion of the 28-day waiting period, Southside selected TeleQuality as its service provider and signed contracts in June 2016 and submitted its FCC Forms 466 in August 2016.

Southside's only error was that it mistakenly provided its FY 2014 bid evaluation matrix to USAC. As a result, USAC mistakenly believed Southside had received multiple bids for Funding Year 2016 when, in fact, Southside received only one bid. After realizing its mistake, Southside asked USAC to disregard the FY 2014 competitive bidding documentation.²⁷ USAC's second request for information, again, incorrectly stated that Southside had received multiple bids and asked Southside to submit copies of those bids. Southside's second response explained that it had received only one bid from TeleQuality in FY 2016.²⁸

At worst, this case involved miscommunication between USAC and Southside concerning the number of bids Southside received in Funding Year 2016. USAC's requests for information incorrectly asserted that Southside had received multiple bids and asked for copies of those bids.²⁹ Southside made a good faith effort to clarify that it had inadvertently submitted supporting documentation from the wrong funding year, which indicated Southside had received multiple bids, and to explain that it received only one bid in FY 2016. Southside would have provided the one FY 2016 bid it received had it realized that is what USAC was seeking and it has provided it to the Commission with this appeal.

III. IN THE ALTERNATIVE, A WAIVER OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

As explained above, Southside complied with the competitive bidding process. In addition, Southside has now provided documentation with this appeal showing that TeleQuality

²⁶ Exhibit 9, Southside Oct. 6 Initial Response.

²⁷ Id.

²⁸ Exhibit 11, Southside Oct. 6 Second Response.

²⁹ Exhibit 8, USAC Sept. 30 Request for Information; Exhibit 10, USAC Oct. 6 Request for Information.

submitted a bid in Funding Year 2016 and this was the only bid Southside received in response to its request for services. If the Commission believes Southside did not meet a program rule, however, Southside respectfully requests a waiver of the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to grant the requested relief.

Any of the Commission's rules may be waived if good cause is shown.³⁰ The Commission may exercise its discretion to waive a rule where the particular facts make strict compliance inconsistent with the public interest.³¹ In addition, the Commission may take into account considerations of hardship, equity, or more effective implementation of overall policy on an individual basis.³²

A waiver in this case would be in the public interest. The budgetary ramifications of Southside being denied appropriate and proper funding would be devastating to this non-profit health care provider. The loss of RHC program funding could force Southside to make difficult choices that would have an adverse impact on the individuals and rural communities that rely upon the health care services it provides.

It is not in the public interest to deny funding for telecommunications services needed due to miscommunication and a documentation error, as in this case. This is especially true when the issue is not a substantive violation, but a procedural one. Additionally, a waiver would further the goals of the Rural Health Care program without undermining the purpose of the Commission's rules and would thus be in the public interest. As explained above, Southside complied with the competitive bidding process. Southside posted its FCC Form 465, waited 28 days before selecting a service provider, and submitted its FCC Form 466 certifying that it had

^{30 47} C.F.R. § 1.3.

³¹ Northeast Cellular Telephone Co. v. FCC, 897 F.2d 1164, 1166 (D.C. Cir. 1990).

³² WAIT Radio v. FCC, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969); Northeast Cellular, 897 F.2d at 1166.

selected the most cost-effective services. There was no fraud, bad faith, or negligence on the part of Southside. It does not further the goals of the RHC program to deny these funds. A documentation error should not result in the denial of all funding for an entire year for all of Southside's funding requests.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, Southside respectfully asks the Commission to grant this appeal and reverse USAC's denials, or, in the alternative, to waive the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to grant the requested relief. Southside notes that, because it refiled its funding requests in FY 2016 to try to correct the issue, it is only seeking funding for either the FRNs submitted in August or November, but not both.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth R. Schwartz

Director of Information Services & Quality

Southside Community Services Board

P.O. Box 1478

143 Industrial Parkway

Clarksville, VA 23927

kschwartz@sscsb.org

(434) 572-6916

May 9, 2019

List of Exhibits

Exhibit 1	List of FRNs
Exhibit 2	Email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, October 10, 2016 (USAC October 2016 Denial)
Exhibit 3	Email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, December 6, 2016 (USAC December 2016 Denial)
Exhibit 4	FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161941 (filed March 18, 2016); FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161942 (filed March 18, 2016); FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43161943 (filed March 18, 2016)
Exhibit 5	FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43162477 (filed April 6, 2016)
Exhibit 6	Southside Community Services Board, Bid Evaluation Matrix for FY 2014
Exhibit 7	Letter from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, Dec. 9, 2016 (Southside Appeal)
Exhibit 8	Email from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board, September 30, 2016 (USAC Sept. 30 Request for Information)
Exhibit 9	Response from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, October 6, 2016 in USAC Portal (Southside Oct. 6 Initial Response)
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Exhibit 11	Response from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC, October 6, 2016 in the USAC Portal (Southside Oct. 6 Second Response)
Exhibit 12	TeleQuality bid response
Exhibit 13	Letter from USAC to Betty Rose, Southside Community Services Board, Administrator's Decision on Rural Health Care Program Appeal, March 15, 2019, at 1 (USAC Appeal Denial)

Southside Community Services Board FY 2016 FRNs Filed on August 31, 2016

HCP Number	HCP Name	FRN	Form 465 Application Number
28296	Southside Community Services Board	1688066	43161941
30947	Southside Community Services Board	1688063	43162477
38311	Southside Community Services Board - HDTC/CSP South Boston	1688069	43161942
38319	Southside Community Services Board - MCSP South Hill	1688068	43161943

Southside Community Services Board FY 2016 FRNs Filed on November 4, 2016

HCP Number	HCP Name	FRN	Form 465 Application Number
28296	Southside Community Services Board	1694413	43161941
30947	Southside Community Services Board	1694411	43162477
38311	Southside Community Services Board - HDTC/CSP South Boston	1694417	43161942
38319	Southside Community Services Board - MCSP South Hill	1694415	43161943



Rose, Betty

brose@sscsb.org>

RHC Telecommunications Program - FCC Form 466 - Denial Notice - HCP # 28296

3 messages

rhc-assist@usac.org <rhc-assist@usac.org>

Mon, Oct 10, 2016 at 4:20 PM

To: brose@sscsb.org, funding@telequality.com, kschwartzsscsb@gmail.com, kschwartz@sscsb.org

Date:

10-Oct-2016

Program:

Telecommunications Program

Funding Year:

2016

Health Care Provider (HCP) Name:

Southside Community Services Board

HCP Number:

28296

Funding Request Number (FRN):

1688066

FCC Form 465 Application Number:

43161941

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)'s Rural Health Care (RHC) Program reviewed the FCC Form 466 (Funding Request and Certification Form) and supporting documentation submitted by the HCP referenced above. Based on the information provided, USAC is unable to provide support for the following reason(s):

- 1. The HCP did not provide paper copies of the offers or bids received in response to the posted FCC Form 465. See 47 C.F.R Section 54.603(b)(4).
- 2. The HCP has violated the Telecommunication's Program competitive bidding rules. See 47 C.F.R. Section 54.603.

Service Provider Name: TeleQuality Communications, Inc. Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN): 143031579

Next Steps

To appeal this decision, deliver a letter of appeal to USAC within 60 days of the date of this letter. Detailed instructions for filing appeals are available at: http://www.usac.org/about/about/program-integrity/appeals.aspx.

For More Information

Please do not reply directly to this email, as emails to this account will not be delivered to the RHC Program team. For questions or assistance, contact the Rural Health Care Program Help Desk at (800) 453-1546 or by email at rhc-assist@usac.org.

For more information about the Telecommunications Program application process, refer to the Telecom Program Getting Started web page at http://www.usac.org/rhc/telecommunications/getting-started/.

For more information about the FCC Form 466, visit the Telecommunications Program Forms web page at http://www.usac.org/rhc/telecommunications/tools/forms/.

The HCP mailing contact, all account holders related to this circuit, the contact at the HCP's physical location have been copied on this email. In addition, a copy of this letter has been sent to the entity identified below as your selected telecommunications carrier.



Rose, Betty

drose@sscsb.org>

RHC Telecommunications Program - FCC Form 466 - Denial Notice - HCP # 28296

2 messages

rhc-assist@usac.org <rhc-assist@usac.org>

Tue, Dec 6, 2016 at 9:00 AM

To: brose@sscsb.org, funding@telequality.com, kschwartzsscsb@gmail.com, kschwartz@sscsb.org

Date:

06-Dec-2016

Program:

Telecommunications Program

Funding Year:

2016

Health Care Provider (HCP) Name:

Southside Community Services Board

HCP Number:

28296

Funding Request Number (FRN):

1694413

FCC Form 465 Application Number:

43161941

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)'s Rural Health Care (RHC) Program reviewed the FCC Form 466 (Funding Request and Certification Form) and supporting documentation submitted by the HCP referenced above. Based on the information provided, USAC is unable to provide support for the following reason(s):

1. The HCP has violated the Telecommunication's Program competitive bidding rules. See 47 C.F.R. Section 54.603.

Service Provider Name: TeleQuality Communications, Inc. Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN): 143031579

Next Steps

To appeal this decision, deliver a letter of appeal to USAC within 60 days of the date of this letter. Detailed instructions for filing appeals are available at: http://www.usac.org/about/about/program-integrity/appeals.aspx.

For More Information

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For more information about the Telecommunications Program application process, refer to the Telecom Program Getting Started web page at http://www.usac.org/rhc/telecommunications/process-overview/default.aspx/.

For more information about the FCC Form 466, visit the Telecommunications Program Forms web page at http://www.usac.org/rhc/telecommunications/tools/forms/.

The HCP mailing contact, all account holders related to this circuit, the contact at the HCP's physical location have been copied on this email. In addition, a copy of this letter has been sent to the entity identified below as your selected telecommunications carrier.

FCC Form 465

Health Care Providers Universal Service Description of Services Requested & Certification Form

Approval by OMB 3060-0804

Estimated time per response: 1 hour

Read instructions thoroughly before completing this form.	Failure to comp	ply may cause delayed or denied funding.
Form 465 Application Number (assigned by RHCD) 43161941	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	
Block 1: HCP Location Information Information required in this block applies to the physical location of the	HCP Do not en	ter a "PO Box" or "Rural Route" address.
1 HCP Number 28296	2 Consortium	Name
3 HCP Name Southside Community Services Board	Number 20200	
5 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz		
6 Address Line 1 450 Washington Street		
7 Address Line 2	8 County Me	cklenburg
9 City Boydton	10 State VA	11 ZIP Code 23917
12 Phone # (434) 572-1565	The Version Ballie	14 E-mail kschwartzsscsb@gmail.com
Block 2: HCP Mailing Contact Information	學學學 医高性囊肿	化学会区 医不足足 医多色体的 国国 医动物性
15 Is the HCP's mailing address (where correspondence should be	X	Yes, complete Block 2
sent) different from its physical location described in Block 1?		No, go to Block 3.
16 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz	17 Organization	Southside Community Services Board
18 Address Line 1 PO Box 1478		
19 Address Line 2		
20 City Clarksville	21 State VA	22 ZIP Code 23927
23 Phone # (434) 572-1565 1565 24 Fax # (434) 374-3	221	25 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
Block 3: Funding Year Information		
26 Funding Year (Check only one box) X Year 2016 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) Year 2017 (7.	/1/2017-6/30/2018	3) Year 2018 (7/1/2018-6/30/2019)
Block 4: Eligibility	朝 到事	数,这是是是是是这个人,但是他是这些分别是这些
27 Only the following types of HCPs are eligible. Indicate which category	ory describes the	applicant. (Check only one.) Rural health clinic
Post-secondary educational institution offering health care instruction, teaching hospital or medical school		Rural fleath diffic
Community health center or health center providing health		Consortium of the above
care to migrants Local health department or agency Dedicated ER of rural, for-profit hospital		
X Community mental health center		
Not-for-profit hospital		Part-time eligible entity
28 If consortium, dedicated emergency department, or part-time eligible entity was selected in Line 27, please describe the entity.		
		n
29 Please describe the eligible health care provider's telecommunicat	ions and/or Intern	et service needs, so that service providers
may bid to provide the services. The description should describe wased, whether large image files or X-rays will be transmitted, the q	vhether video or s	tore and forward consultations will be
Services required to support tele-medicine services, supp	ort access use	e and maintenance EHR, patient portals and
data transfers.		
Disab 5. Downsot for Convince		THE STREET STREET, NO. 19 LEWIS CO., NO. 19 LEWI
Block 5: Request for Services 30 Is the HCP requesting reduced rates for:		
Both Telecommunications & Internet Services	Telecommunicat	tions Service ONLY Internet Service ONLY

Block 6: Certification	(1)	
I certify that I am authorized to submit this request on behalf of the above-named entity or entities, that I have examined this request, and that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, all statements of fact contained herein are true.		
32 X I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certify that the health care provider has followed any approximately 12 I certificately 12 I certifi	plicable State or local procurement rules.	
HCPs' participation in this program, pursuant to 47 U.S.C	rnet access charges that the HCP receives at reduced rates as a result of the Sec. 254 as implemented by the Federal Communications Commission, provision of health care service or instruction that the HCP is legally the services are provided and will not be sold, resold, or transferred	
34 X I certify that the health care provider is a non-profit or put	olic entity.	
35 X I certify that the health care provider is located in a rural a (http://www.usac.org/rhc/tools/rhcdb/Rural/2005/search.a	area. Visit the RHCD website: asp) or contact RHCD at 1-800-229-5476 for a listing of rural areas.	
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Secs. 54.601 and 54.603, I certify requirements herein and will abide by all of the relevant reprovided under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 254.	that the HCP or consortium that I am representing satisfies all of the equirements, including all applicable FCC rules, with respect to funding	
37 Signature Electronically signed	³⁸ Date 18-Mar-2016	
39 Printed name of authorized person Kenneth Schwartz	40 Title or position of authorized person Director of Information Services & Quality	
41 Employer of authorized person Southside Community Services Board	42 Employer's FCC RN 0021625215	

Please remember:

- Form 465 is the first step a health care provider must take in order to receive the benefit of reduced rates resulting from participation in this universal service support program.
- After the HCP submits a complete and accurate Form 465, the RHCD will post it on the RHCD web site for 28 days.
- HCPs may not enter into agreements to purchase eligible services from service providers before the 28 days expire.
- After the HCP selects a service provider, the HCP must initiate the next step in the application process, the filing of Form 466 and/or 466A.

Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. Secs. 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1001.

FCC NOTICE FOR INDIVIDUALS REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT AND THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

Part 3 of the Commission's Rules authorize the FCC to request the information on this form. The purpose of the information is to determine your eligibility for certification as a health care provider. The information will be used by the Universal Service Administrative Company and/or the staff of the Federal Communications Commission, to evaluate this form, to provide information for enforcement and rulemaking proceedings and to maintain a current inventory of applicants, health care providers, billed entities, and service providers. No authorization can be granted unless all information requested is provided. Failure to provide all requested information will delay the processing of the application or result in the application being returned without action. Information requested by this form will be available for public inspection. Your response is required to obtain the requested authorization.

The public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the required data, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments on this burden estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, AMD-PERM, Paperwork Reduction Act Project (3060-0804), Washington, DC 20554. We will also accept your comments regarding the Paperwork Reduction Act aspects of this collection via the Internet if you send them to pra@fcc.gov. PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR RESPONSE TO THIS ADDRESS.

Remember - You are not required to respond to a collection of information sponsored by the Federal government, and the government may not conduct or sponsor this collection, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number or if we fail to provide you with this notice. This collection has been assigned an OMB control number of 3060-0804.

THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974, PUBLIC LAW 93-579, DECEMBER 31, 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(3) AND THE PAPEWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

This form should be submitted to:

Rural Health Care Division 30 Lanidex Plaza West, P.O.Box 685 Parsippany NJ 07054-0685 FCC Form 465

Health Care Providers Universal Service Description of Services Requested & Certification Form

Approval by OMB 3060—0804

Estimated time per response: 1 hour

Read instructions thoroughly before completing this form. Failure to comply may cause delayed or denied funding.

	d instructions thoroughly before completing this form.	Failure to co	mply may cause delayed or defiled funding.
Forr	n 465 Application Number (assigned by RHCD) 43161942	THE REAL PROPERTY.	
Blo	rck 1: HCP Location Information rmation required in this block applies to the physical location of the	HCP Do not	enter a "PO Box" or "Rural Route" address.
HCP Number 38311		2 Consortium Name	
3			Registration Number (FCC RN) 0021625215
5	Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz		
6	Address Line 1 3030 Philpott Rd.		
7	Address Line 2	8 County H	alifax
9	City South Boston	10 State VA	11 ZIP Code 24592
12	Phone #4345726916 1565 13 Fax # (434) 374	-3221	14 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
Blo	ock 2: HCP Mailing Contact Information		
15	Is the HCP's mailing address (where correspondence should be	X	Yes, complete Block 2
	sent) different from its physical location described in Block 1?		No, go to Block 3.
16	Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz	17 Organizat	ion Southside Community Services Board
18	Address Line 1 P.O. Box 1478		
19	Address Line 2		
20	City Clarksville	21 State VA	
23	Phone #4345726916 1565 24 Fax #(434) 374-3	3221	25 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
28 29 29	Funding Year (Check only one box) X Year 2016 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) Pock 4: Eligibility Only the following types of HCPs are eligible. Indicate which category instruction, teaching hospital or medical school Community health center or health center providing health care to migrants Local health department or agency X Community mental health center Not-for-profit hospital If consortium, dedicated emergency department, or part-time eligible health care provider's telecommunicate may bid to provide the services. The description should describe was whether large image files or X-rays will be transmitted, the quervices required to support tele-medicine services, supparate transfers.	ole entity was se	ne applicant. (Check only one.) Rural health clinic Consortium of the above Dedicated ER of rural, for-profit hospital Part-time eligible entity elected in Line 27, please describe the entity.
ВІ	ock 5: Request for Services		
-	Is the HCP requesting reduced rates for: Both Telecommunications & Internet Services	Telecommuni	cations Service ONLY Internet Service ONLY

Block 6: Certification	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)
31 X I certify that I am authorized to submit this request on beha and that to the best of my knowledge, information, and bel	alf of the above-named entity or entities, that I have examined this request, ief, all statements of fact contained herein are true.
32 X I certify that the health care provider has followed any appl	licable State or local procurement rules.
HCPs' participation in this program, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. will be used solely for purposes reasonably related to the r	net access charges that the HCP receives at reduced rates as a result of the Sec. 254 as implemented by the Federal Communications Commission, provision of health care service or instruction that the HCP is legally the services are provided and will not be sold, resold, or transferred
34 X I certify that the health care provider is a non-profit or publ	ic entity.
35 X I certify that the health care provider is located in a rural ar (http://www.usac.org/rhc/tools/rhcdb/Rural/2005/search.as	rea. Visit the RHCD website: p) or contact RHCD at 1-800-229-5476 for a listing of rural areas.
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Secs. 54.601 and 54.603, I certify the requirements herein and will abide by all of the relevant reprovided under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 254.	nat the HCP or consortium that I am representing satisfies all of the quirements, including all applicable FCC rules, with respect to funding
37 Signature Electronically signed	³⁸ Date 18-Mar-2016
39 Printed name of authorized person Kenneth Schwartz 40 Title or position of authorized person Director of Information Services & Qu	
41 Employer of authorized person Southside Community Services Board	42 Employer's FCC RN 0021625215

Please remember:

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- After the HCP selects a service provider, the HCP must initiate the next step in the application process, the filing of Form 466 and/or 466A.

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The public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the required data, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have any comments on this burden estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to the Federal Communications Commission, AMD-PERM, Paperwork Reduction Act Project (3060-0804), Washington, DC 20554. We will also accept your comments regarding the Paperwork Reduction Act aspects of this collection via the Internet if you send them to pra@fcc.gov. PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR RESPONSE TO THIS ADDRESS.

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THE FOREGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974, PUBLIC LAW 93-579, DECEMBER 31, 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(3) AND THE PAPEWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

This form should be submitted to:

Rural Health Care Division 30 Lanidex Plaza West, P.O.Box 685 Parsippany NJ 07054-0685 FCC Form 465

Health Care Providers Universal Service Description of Services Requested & Certification Form

Approval by OMB 3060—0804

Estimated time per response: 1 hour

Read instructions thoroughly before completing this form. Failure to comply may cause delayed or denied funding.

Read instructions thoroughly before completing this form.	Failure to com	ply may cause delayed or deflied fullding.
Form 465 Application Number (assigned by RHCD) 43161943		
Block 1: HCP Location Information Information required in this block applies to the physical location of the	HCB Do not on	tor a "PO Box" or "Pural Pouta" address
1 HCP Number 38319	2 Consortium	
3 HCP Name Southside Community Services Board - MCSP South Hill	4 HCP FCC R	egistration Number (FCC RN) 0021625215
5 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz		
6 Address Line 1 823 N. Mecklenburg Ave		
7 Address Line 2	8 County Me	cklenburg
9 City South Hill	10 State VA	11 ZIP Code 23970
12 Phone #4345726916 1565 13 Fax #(434) 374	-3221	14 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
Block 2: HCP Mailing Contact Information	73年 自控制	
15 Is the HCP's mailing address (where correspondence should be	X	Yes, complete Block 2
sent) different from its physical location described in Block 1?		No, go to Block 3.
16 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz	17 Organization	Southside Community Services Board
18 Address Line 1 P.O. Box 1478		
19 Address Line 2		
20 City Clarksville	21 State VA	22 ZIP Code 23927
23 Phone #4345726916 1565 24 Fax #(434) 374-3	221	25 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
Block 3: Funding Year Information 26 Funding Year (Check only one box)		
X Year 2016 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) Year 2017 (7/	/1/2017-6/30/2018	3) Year 2018 (7/1/2018-6/30/2019)
Block 4: Eligibility	制品品品工作	新加速等的 100mm
27 Only the following types of HCPs are eligible. Indicate which category Post-secondary educational institution offering health care	ory describes the	applicant. (Check only one.) Rural health clinic
instruction, teaching hospital or medical school		realth chine
Community health center or health center providing health		Consortium of the above
care to migrants Local health department or agency		Dedicated ER of rural, for-profit hospital
X Community mental health center		
Not-for-profit hospital		Part-time eligible entity
28 If consortium, dedicated emergency department, or part-time eligib	le entity was sele	cted in Line 27, please describe the entity.
		-t i d- oo that condon providers
29 Please describe the eligible health care provider's telecommunicati may bid to provide the services. The description should describe w	ons and/or internations	et service needs, so that service providers
used, whether large image files or X-rays will be transmitted, the gr	uality of connection	on needed, or other relevant considerations.
Services required to support tele-medicine services, supp	ort access use	e and maintenance EHR, patient portals and
data transfers.		
Block 5: Request for Services		建建筑型域交换。 计图 15 计图 25 图
30 Is the HCP requesting reduced rates for:	1	
Both Telecommunications & Internet Services X	Telecommunicat	tions Service ONLY Internet Service ONLY

Block 6: Certification	上的音音的音乐的影响是音乐。其实显然 Nixx 1 3kg 天型的音音型
31 X I certify that I am authorized to submit this request on behavior and that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belavior.	alf of the above-named entity or entities, that I have examined this request, ief, all statements of fact contained herein are true.
32 X I certify that the health care provider has followed any app	licable State or local procurement rules.
HCPs' participation in this program, pursuant to 47 U.S.C.	net access charges that the HCP receives at reduced rates as a result of the Sec. 254 as implemented by the Federal Communications Commission, provision of health care service or instruction that the HCP is legally the services are provided and will not be sold, resold, or transferred
34 X I certify that the health care provider is a non-profit or publ	ic entity.
35 X I certify that the health care provider is located in a rural at (http://www.usac.org/rhc/tools/rhcdb/Rural/2005/search.as	rea. Visit the RHCD website: sp) or contact RHCD at 1-800-229-5476 for a listing of rural areas.
36 Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Secs. 54.601 and 54.603, I certify the requirements herein and will abide by all of the relevant reprovided under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 254.	hat the HCP or consortium that I am representing satisfies all of the equirements, including all applicable FCC rules, with respect to funding
37 Signature Electronically signed	38 Date 18-Mar-2016
39 Printed name of authorized person Kenneth Schwartz	40 Title or position of authorized person Director of Information Services & Quality
41 Employer of authorized person Southside Community Services Board	42 Employer's FCC RN 0021625215

Please remember:

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This form should be submitted to:

Rural Health Care Division 30 Lanidex Plaza West, P.O.Box 685 Parsippany NJ 07054-0685

FCC Form 465

Health Care Providers Universal Service Description of Services Requested & Certification Form

Approval by OMB 3060-0804

Estimated time per response: 1 hour

	Tunuic to com	iply may cause delayed or defiled funding.
Form 465 Application Number (assigned by RHCD) 43162477		
Block 1: HCP Location Information Information required in this block applies to the physical location of the	HCP Do not en	oter a "PO Box" or "Rural Route" address
1 HCP Number 30947	2 Consortium	Name
3 HCP Name Southside Community Services Board		
5 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz		
6 Address Line 1 523 Madison Street		
7 Address Line 2	8 County Me	cklenburg
9 City Boydton	10 State VA	11 ZIP Code 23917
12 Phone # (434) 572-1565 1565 13 Fax # (434) 374	-3221	14 E-mail kschwartzsscsb@gmail.com
Block 2: HCP Mailing Contact Information		
15 Is the HCP's mailing address (where correspondence should be	X	Yes, complete Block 2
sent) different from its physical location described in Block 1?		No, go to Block 3.
16 Contact Name Kenneth R Schwartz	17 Organizatio	n Southside Community Services Board
18 Address Line 1 PO Box 1478		
19 Address Line 2		
20 City Clarksville	21 State VA	22 ZIP Code 23927
23 Phone # (434) 572-1565 1565 24 Fax # (434) 374-3 Block 3: Funding Year Information	3221	25 E-mail kschwartz@sscsb.org
26 Funding Year (Check only one box) X Year 2016 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) Year 2017 (7	/1/2017-6/30/201	8) Year 2018 (7/1/2018-6/30/2019)
Block 4: Eligibility 27 Only the following types of HCPs are eligible. Indicate which categ Post-secondary educational institution offering health care instruction, teaching hospital or medical school Community health center or health center providing health care to migrants Local health department or agency X Community mental health center Not-for-profit hospital 28 If consortium, dedicated emergency department, or part-time eligit	ory describes the	applicant. (Check only one.) Rural health clinic Consortium of the above Dedicated ER of rural, for-profit hospital Part-time eligible entity
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Block 6: Certification	。	
I certify that I am authorized to submit this request on behalf of the above-named entity or entities, that I have examined this request, and that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, all statements of fact contained herein are true.		
32 X I certify that the health care provider has followed any appl	icable State or local procurement rules.	
HCPs' participation in this program, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. will be used solely for purposes reasonably related to the program.	net access charges that the HCP receives at reduced rates as a result of the Sec. 254 as implemented by the Federal Communications Commission, provision of health care service or instruction that the HCP is legally the services are provided and will not be sold, resold, or transferred	
34 X I certify that the health care provider is a non-profit or publ	ic entity.	
35 X I certify that the health care provider is located in a rural ar (http://www.usac.org/rhc/tools/rhcdb/Rural/2005/search.as	rea. Visit the RHCD website: p) or contact RHCD at 1-800-229-5476 for a listing of rural areas.	
Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Secs. 54.601 and 54.603, I certify the requirements herein and will abide by all of the relevant reprovided under 47 U.S.C. Sec. 254.	nat the HCP or consortium that I am representing satisfies all of the quirements, including all applicable FCC rules, with respect to funding	
37 Signature Electronically signed	38 Date 06-Apr-2016	
39 Printed name of authorized person Kenneth Schwartz	40 Title or position of authorized person Director of Information Services & Quality	
41 Employer of authorized person Southside Community Services Board	42 Employer's FCC RN 0021625215	

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This form should be submitted to:

Rural Health Care Division 30 Lanidex Plaza West, P.O.Box 685 Parsippany NJ 07054-0685

Factor	Point Available	GCR	Network Solutions	RHT
Price of the eligible products and Services	30	15	20	25
Prior experience with the vendor	20	20	0	0
Prices for ineligible services products, and fees	25	15	20	25
Flexible invooicing: FCC Form 472 or FCC Form 474	15	0	0	15
Local or in-state vendor	10	10	0	0
Totals:	100	09	40	99

List of Disqualified Bidders: None



Administrative Office PO Box 1478 143 Industrial Parkway Clarksville, Virginia 23927

> Phone: 434.572.6916 Fax: 434.374.2115

Elizabeth C. Engelhorn Executive Director

December 8, 2016

Universal Service Administrative Company Rural Healthcare Attn: Letter of Appeal 700 12th Street NW, Suite 900 Washington D.C. 20005

	HCP 30947	FRN 16944111
•	HCP 30947	FRN 16880631
•	HCP 28296	FRN 16944131
•	HCP 28296	FRN 16880661
•	HCP 38319	FRN 16944151
•	HCP 38319	FRN 16880681
	HCP 38311	FRN 16944171
•	HCP 38311	FRN 16880691

Southside Community Services Board would like to file an appeal for the FRN's referenced above. The denial reasons for each FRN are as follows: "The HCP has violated the Telecommunication's Program competitive bidding rules. See 47 C.F.R. Section 54.603."

The BID matrix that was submitted was for the funding year 2014. This submission was a mistake on our part. We asked the reviewer to disregard the documents that were originally attached. The reason that we asked the reviewer to disregard the originally attached documents was because they were from the previous funded year 2014. After we received an additional request for information, we responded again as well as contacted the reviewer via telephone.

Attached you will find BID's that we received during the 2014 funding year. Each document is date stamped with the month and year we received the BID's. Based on these listed facts, Southside Community Service Board is requesting that the denial of funding should be revised.

If any additional documentation or information needs to be provided, please don't hesitate to contact Betty Rose or Kenneth Schwartz.

Kenneth Schwartz 143 Industrial Parkway Clarksville, VA 23927 kschwartz@sscsb.org 434-572-6916 EXT 1565

Betty Rose 143 Industrial Parkway Clarksville, VA 23927 brose@sscsb.org 434-572-6916 EXT 1530

Thank you,

Betty Rose Quality Assurance Coordinator



Rose, Betty

brose@sscsb.org>

Action Required - RHC Telecommunications Program - Submit Requested Information - FCC Form 466 HCP # 28296, FRN 1688066

3 messages

rhc-assist@usac.org <rhc-assist@usac.org>
To: brose@sscsb.org, kschwartz@sscsb.org

Fri, Sep 30, 2016 at 9:00 AM

Date: 30-Sep-2016

HCP Number:

28296

FCC Form 465 Application Number:

43161941

Funding Request Number (FRN):

1688066

Service Type:

T3 or DS3

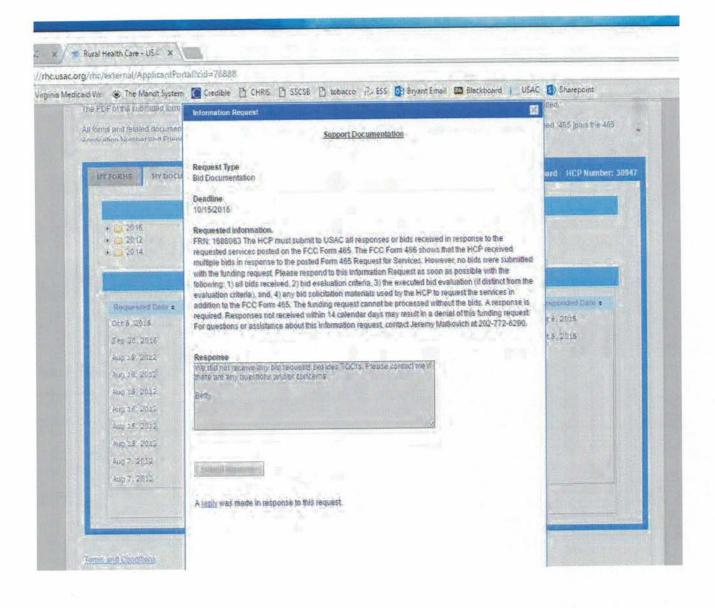
Funding Year:

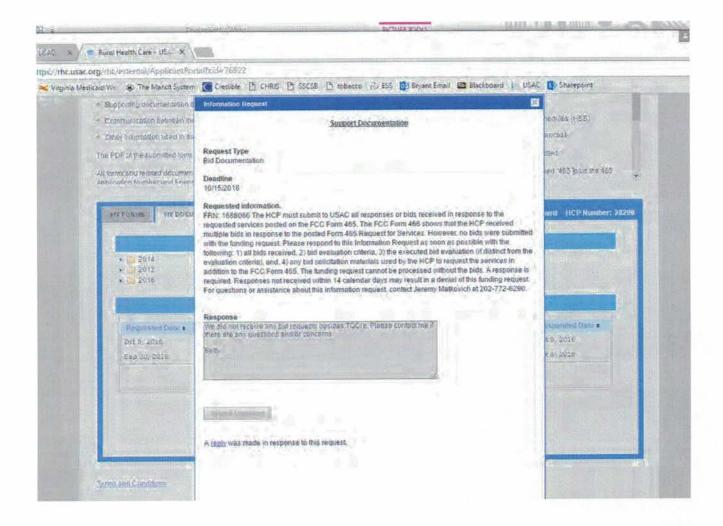
2016

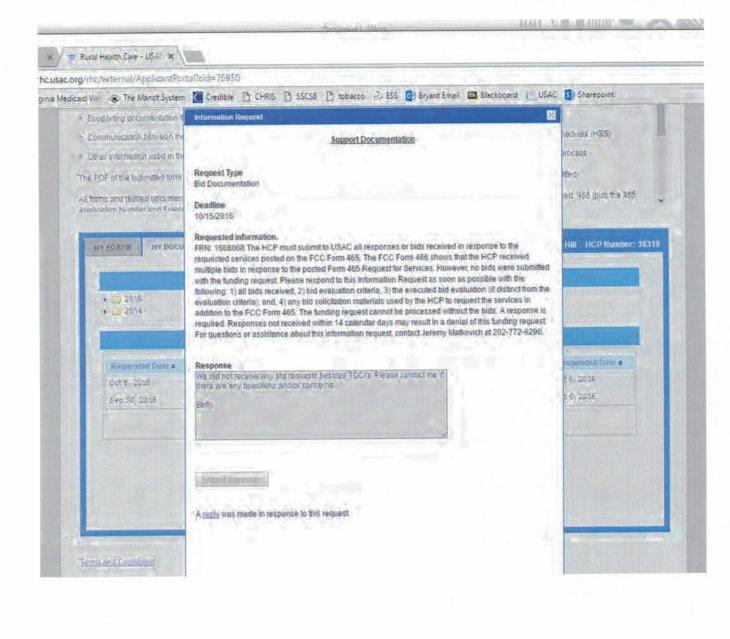
The Rural Health Care (RHC) division of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has received the FCC Form 466 submitted by the HCP referenced above. However, RHC cannot process the form without information for FRN 1688066. To view and respond to the request for information, log into My Portal at https://rhc.usac.org/rhc/, go to Information Requested on the My Documents tab, and click on the "Request Type" hyperlink. Click on "Submit Response" to submit the information requested. Any account holder will be able to respond to an Information Request; once it has been completed, the request is removed from the Information Requests section and the information provided will be saved to your My Documents folder.

The information requested is required to process the above referenced form, and must be submitted to RHC by the deadline. Failure to respond to the email may impact funding.

Do not reply to this email - RHC does not monitor this account. For questions or assistance about the information request, contact the RHC Help Desk at 800-453-1546 or click on the "Contact RHC Help Desk" link in My Portal.









Rose, Betty

drose@sscsb.org>

Action Required - RHC Telecommunications Program - Submit Requested Information - FCC Form 466 HCP # 28296, FRN 1688066

2 messages

rhc-assist@usac.org <rhc-assist@usac.org>
To: brose@sscsb.org, kschwartz@sscsb.org

Thu, Oct 6, 2016 at 9:30 AM

Date: 06-Oct-2016

HCP Number:

28296

FCC Form 465 Application Number:

43161941

Funding Request Number (FRN):

1688066

Service Type:

T3 or DS3

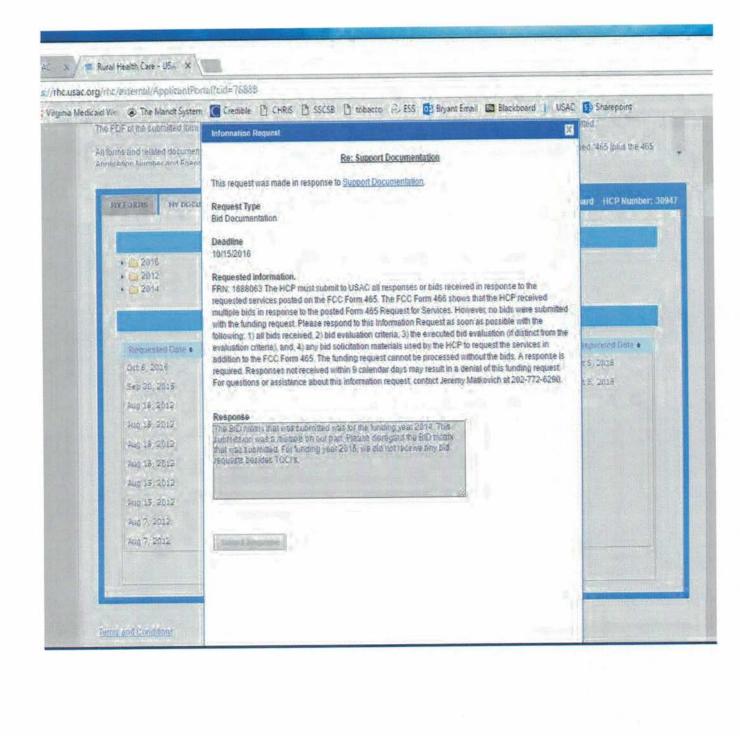
Funding Year:

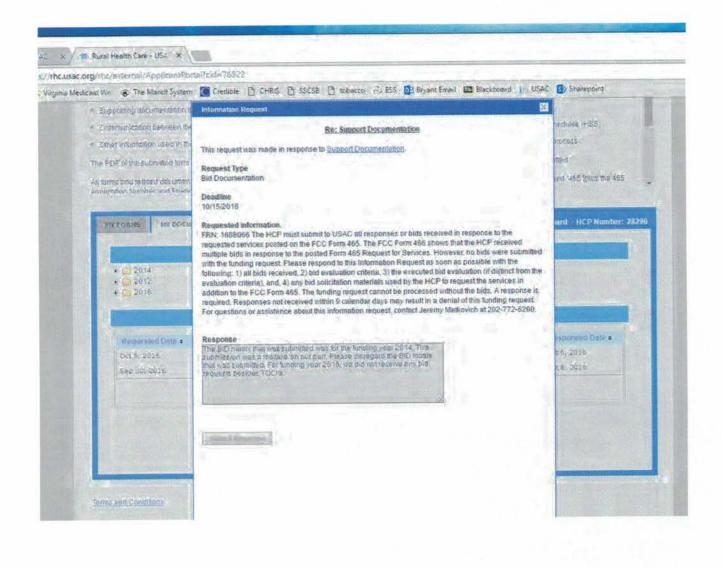
2016

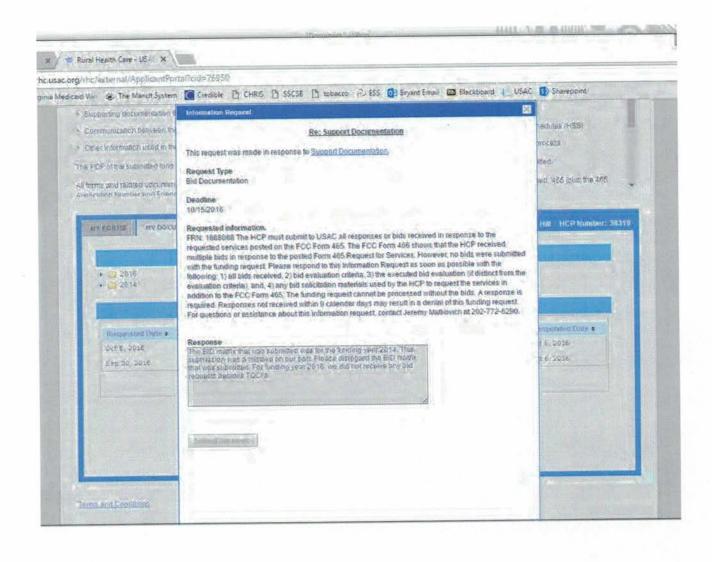
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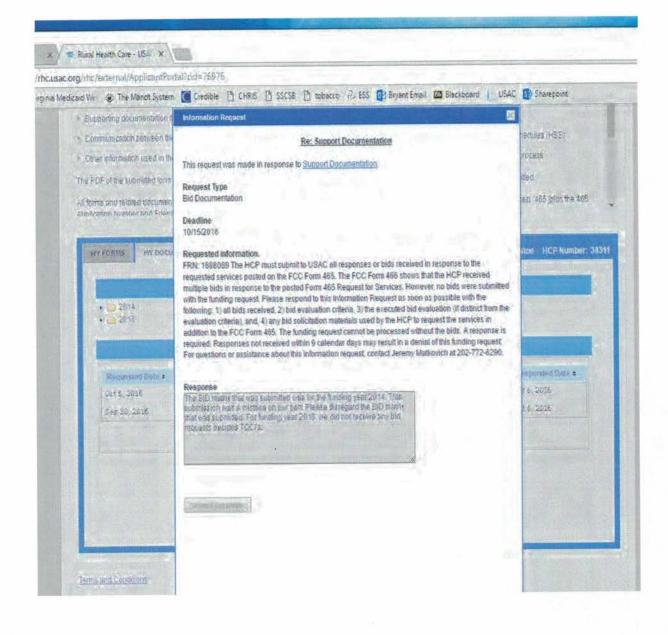
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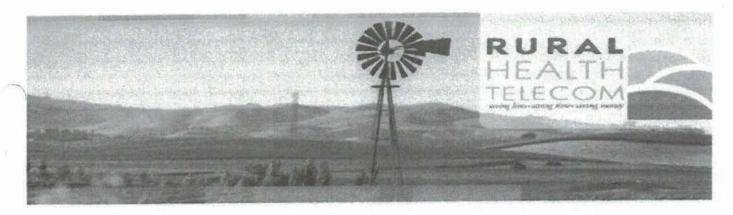
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Proposed Network Pricing - Gross Monthly Recurring/Installation

Network Type:

Healthnet with Internet Access

Pricing Term:

60 Months

Pricing 1977:	60 MONTIS										
SPEED	ADDRESS	спу	STATE	209	PHONE	MONTHLY CIRCUIT / LOOP	MONTHLY	MONTHLY MANAGED ROUTER	MONTHLY MANAGED FIREWALL	TOTAL MONTHLY	INSTALLATION
45 Mbps	525 Medicon St.	Boydton	VA	23917		\$6,780.00	WAIVED			\$6,760.00	\$2,806.00
45 SAbps	450 Washington St.	Boydton	VA	23917		\$6,780.00	WAIVED			\$6,780.00	\$2,800.0
45 Mbps	SZS W. Mecklenburg Ave	South NIII	VA	23970		\$6,790.00	WAIVED			\$6,720.00	\$2,800.00
100 Misps	3650 Philipott Md.	South Boston	VA	24592		\$4,475.00	WANED			\$8,475.00	\$2,800.00
Cable	703 Lombardy St.	South Hill.	VA	23970		5104.90	WANED	0/2	n/a	\$104.90	\$0.00
Cable	1386 Liverencoville Plank Rd.	Lawrenceville	VA	25958	The state of the s	\$67.95	WANED		n/a	\$67.95	\$0.00
Cable	2087 Lawrenceville Plank Rd.	Lawrenceville	VA	28968		\$147.95	WAIVED	nts	n/a	\$147.95	\$0.00
Cable	1648 Lawrenceville Plank Ad.	Lawrenceville	VA	23068		\$64.95	WAIVED	n/a	n/a	\$64.95	\$8.00
1044bps	143 Industrial Play	Clarksville	VA	23927		\$700.00	WAIVED		n/a	\$700.00	\$0.00
10Mbys	424 Hamilton BNd	South Boston	VA	24592		\$822,00	WANED	n/a	nja	\$522.00	\$0.00
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April 29, 2016

Queta is valid for 30 days from issue data of:

April 29,
All pricing presented is contingent on available facilities from the carrier(s).

Charges reflect gross charges and do not include possible funding through the Universal Service Fund.

The proposal does not constitute a contractual agreement.

*Promotional Offer: Service qualifies for the Cristi Cart Diagnostic Network Assessment.



Administrator's Decision on Rural Health Care Program Appeal

Via Electronic Mail

March 15, 2019

Ms. Betty Rose Southside Community Services Board 143 Industrial Parkway Clarksville, VA 23927

Re:

Southside Community Services Board - Appeal of USAC's Decision for Funding

Request Numbers Listed in Appendices A and B

Dear Ms. Rose:

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has completed its evaluation of the December 9, 2016 letter of appeal (Appeal) submitted by Southside Community Services Board (SCSB) for the health care providers listed in Appendices A and B. On October 10, 2016 and December 6, 2016, USAC denied SCSB's funding requests for support under the Rural Health Care Telecommunications Program (Telecom Program) for funding year 2016 (FY 2016). The Appeal requests that USAC reverse the denial of the funding request numbers (FRNs) listed in Appendices A and B in the Telecom Program.

USAC has reviewed the Appeal and the facts related to this matter and has determined that Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and requirements support the denial of the FRNs listed in Appendices A and B because SCSB did not provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that it complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules. Specifically, SCSB failed to submit copies of the bids received in response to the FY 2016 request for services. As a result, USAC denies the Appeal.

Background

FCC rules require eligible health care providers (HCPs) seeking funding from the Telecom Program to conduct a competitive bidding process for eligible services by submitting an FCC

¹ See Letter from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC (Dec. 9, 2016) (Appeal). Although the Appeal is dated December 8, 2016, it was submitted to USAC on December 9, 2016 via email. See Appeal; Email from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, to Rural Health Care Division, USAC (Dec. 9, 2016).

² See Emails from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board (Oct. 10, 2016) (Administrator's Denials of FRNs listed in Appendix A); Emails from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board (Dec. 6, 2016) (Administrator's Denials of FRNs listed in Appendix B).

³ See Appeal.

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board March 15, 2019 Page 2 of 7

Form 465 (Description of Services Requested & Certification Form) and waiting at least 28 days before selecting a service provider. Once an HCP selects a service provider, it submits an FCC Form 466 (Funding Request & Certification Form) to provide information about the services selected and to certify that the services selected are the most cost-effective options of the offers received. With the FCC Form 466, the HCP must provide copies of all bids received in response to its FCC Form 465. HCPs are required to submit the FCC Form 466 and all supporting documentation prior to the end of the relevant funding year.

The FCC clarified that, beginning with FY 2015, when USAC determines that an applicant lacks all supporting documentation accompanying its FCC Form 466 or the supporting documentation is inadequate, USAC shall inform the applicant promptly in writing of the omission or inadequacy and give the applicant 14 calendar days from receipt of that notice to submit the missing or relevant supporting documentation. If applicants do not provide timely responses to USAC's requests for omitted or adequate supporting documentation, USAC must deny the associated funding request. The responsibility to submit complete and accurate information remains at all times the sole responsibility of the applicant. USAC is not authorized to waive the FCC's rules and requirements governing the Telecom Program.

SCSB's Funding Requests

FRNs Listed in Appendix A. Between March 18, 2016 and April 6, 2016, SCSB submitted four FCC Forms 465, requesting bids for services for FY 2016. 12 On August 31, 2016, SCSB submitted four corresponding FCC Forms 466 for the FRNs in Appendix A, seeking support for services from TeleQuality Communications, Inc. (TeleQuality). 13 On each of the FCC Forms

¹⁰ See Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, WC Docket No. 02-60, Report and Order, 27 FCC Rcd 16678, 16785, para. 242; 16803, para. 300 (2012).

¹² See FY 2016 FCC Forms 465 Nos. 43161941, 43161942, and 43161943 (Mar. 18, 2016); FY 2016 FCC Form 465 No. 43162477 (Apr. 18, 2016).

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. § 54.603(a), (b)(3); Health Care Providers Universal Service, Description of Services Requested & Certification Form, OMB 3060-0804 at 2 (July 2014) (FCC Form 465); Form 465 Instructions, Rural Health Care Universal Service Mechanism, OMB 3060-0804 at 1 (July 2014) (FCC Form 465 Instructions).

⁵ See 47 C.F.R §§ 54.603(b)(4), 54.615(a), (c)(7); Health Care Providers Universal Service, Funding Request and Certification Form, OMB 3060-0804 (July 2014) (FCC Form 466); Form 466 Instructions, Rural Health Care Universal Service Mechanism, OMB 3060-0804 (July 2014) (FCC Form 466 Instructions).

⁶ See 47 C.F.R § 54.603(b)(4); FCC Form 466 at 1; FCC Form 466 Instructions at 9.

⁷ See 47 C.F.R. § 54.675(b); FCC Form 466 at 1; FCC Form 466 Instructions at 1.

⁸ See Form 466 Deadline Order, 30 FCC Rcd at 231, para. 3.

⁹ See id.

¹¹ See generally, 47 C.F.R. § 54.702(c) (2014) ("[USAC] may not make policy, interpret unclear provisions of the statute or rules, or interpret the intent of Congress."); 47 C.F.R. § 1.3 (2014) ("The provisions of this chapter may be suspended, revoked, amended, or waived for good cause shown, in whole or in part, at any time by the Commission, subject to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act and the provisions of this chapter.").

¹³ See FY 2016 FCC Form 466 for FRNs listed in Appendix A (Aug. 31, 2016).

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466, SCSB indicated that it received bids in response to its FCC Forms 465.14 To support the information on the FCC Forms 466, SCSB submitted a copy of its bid evaluation matrix, which provided scores for three service providers, including TeleQuality. 15 SCSB did not provide copies of the bids it received in response to its FCC Forms 465.

On September 30, 2016, USAC sent information requests to SCSB for the FRNs in Appendix A, requesting that it provide copies of the bids submitted in response to its FCC Forms 465, the bid criteria and any other documentation used to evaluate bids, and any materials used in addition to the FCC Forms 465 to request the services. 16 In the information requests, USAC noted that SCSB had indicated in its FCC Forms 466 that it received bids in response to its FCC Forms 465.17 In response to USAC's information request, SCSB stated that TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider, but did not provide a copy of TeleQuality's bid or any other competitive bidding documentation. 18

On October 6, 2016, USAC sent follow-up information requests to SCSB for the FRNs in Appendix A, requesting the same information and documentation identified in USAC's September 30, 2016 information requests. 19 In response to USAC's follow-up requests, SCSB again stated that TeleQuality was the only bidding service provider, and asserted that the bid evaluation matrix it submitted with its FCC Forms 466 was for FY 2014, and was submitted in error. 20 As in its previous response, SCSB did not provide a copy of TeleQuality's bid or any other competitive bidding documentation. On October 10, 2016, USAC denied the FRNs in Appendix A because SCSB did not submit copies of the bids it received in response to its FCC Forms 465, and failed to demonstrate that its funding requests complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules.21

FRNs Listed in Appendix B. After the denial of the FRNs listed in Appendix A, on November 4, 2016, SCSB submitted four more FY 2016 FCC Forms 466 for the FRNs in Appendix B.²² Because SCSB sought support for the same services from TeleQuality at the same locations, and were supported by the same documentation, USAC determined that the new funding requests

¹⁵ See Southside Community Services Board, Bid Evaluation Matrix (filed Aug. 31, 2016).

¹⁶ See Emails from Rural Health Care Division, USAC to Southside Community Services Board (Sept. 30, 2016).

¹⁸ See Email from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board, Rural Health Care Division, USAC (Oct. 6, 2016).

¹⁹ See Emails from Rural Health Care Division, USAC, to Southside Community Services Board (Oct. 6, 2016). ²⁰ See Email from Betty Rose, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Southside Community Services Board to the Rural Health Care Division, USAC (Oct. 6, 2016).

²¹ See Administrator's Denials of FRNs listed in Appendix A.

²² See FY 2016 FCC Forms 466 for FRNs listed in Appendix B (Nov. 4, 2016).

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board March 15, 2019 Page 4 of 7

were duplicates of the FRNs in Appendix A.²³ The FRNs in Appendix B were also associated with the same FCC Forms 465 and competitive bidding process as the FRNs in Appendix A.²⁴ However, whereas SCSB had previously indicated in its forms and information request responses for the FRNs in Appendix A that it received bids in response to its FCC Forms 465,²⁵ SCSB indicated on the new FCC Forms 466 that it did not receive any bids in response to the same requests for services.²⁶ SCSB did not provide any information or documentation to resolve this discrepancy. On December 6, 2016, USAC denied the FRNs in Appendix B because SCSB failed to demonstrate that its funding requests complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules.²⁷

SCSB's Appeal

On December 9, 2016, SCSB appealed USAC's denial of the FRNs in Appendices A and B.²⁸ In the Appeal, SCSB reiterates its assertion that the bidding matrix that it submitted was for FY 2014, and provides copies of a bid from TeleQuality dated September 25, 2014 and bids from two other service providers dated September 30, 2014 and December 18, 2014.²⁹ SCSB did not provide any other competitive bidding documentation, including a copy of its bid from TeleQuality for FY 2016.

Administrator's Decision on Appeal

Based on a review of the facts and documentation provided, USAC finds that SCSB did not comply with the FCC's competitive bidding rules as SCSB failed to submit copies of the bids it received in response to its FY 2016 request for services. ³⁰ As stated previously, SCSB indicated that it received a bid from TeleQuality in response to its FY 2016 request for services. However, SCSB did not provide a copy of TeleQuality's bid in response to USAC's information requests or with the FCC Forms 466. As a result, USAC was unable to determine whether the FRNs listed in Appendices A and B complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules. Therefore, USAC denies the Appeal.

25 See supra notes 16, 18, 20.

²³ Compare FY 2016 FCC Form 466 for FRNs listed in Appendix A (Aug. 31, 2016) with FY 2016 FCC Forms 466 for FRNs listed in Appendix B (Nov. 4, 2016) (requesting support for the services, from the same service provider, at the same locations).

²⁴ See id.

²⁶ See FY 2016 FCC Forms 466 for FRNs listed in Appendix B (Nov. 4, 2016).

²⁷ See Administrator's Denials of FRNs listed in Appendix B.

²⁸ See Appeal.

²⁹ See TeleQuality Communications, Bid for Southside Community Services Board (Sept. 25, 2014); Network Services Solutions, LLC, Bid for Southside Community Services Board (Sept. 30, 2014); GCR Communications, Bid for Southside Community Services Board (Dec. 18, 2014).

^{30 47} C.F.R § 54.603(b)(4).

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board March 15, 2019 Page 5 of 7

Conclusion

USAC finds that SCSB did not provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate that the FRNs in Appendices A and B complied with the FCC's competitive bidding rules. Specifically, SCSB failed to submit copies of the bids received in response to the FY 2016 request for services. As a result, USAC denies the Appeal.

If you wish to appeal this decision to the FCC or request a waiver, you can follow the instructions pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart I (47 C.F.R. §§ 54.719 to 725). Further instructions for filing appeals or requesting waivers are available at:

http://www.usac.org/about/about/program-integrity/appeals.aspx

Sincerely,

/s/Universal Service Administrative Company

Cc:

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board 450 Washington Street Boydton, VA 23917

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board 523 Madison Street Boydton, VA 23917 Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board – HDTC/CSP 3030 Philpott Road South Boston, VA 24592

Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board – MCSP 823 N. Mecklenburg Ave. South Hill, VA 23970 Ms. Betty Rose & Mr. Kenneth Schwartz Southside Community Services Board March 15, 2019 Page 6 of 7

APPENDIX A Southside Community Services Board FY 2016 FRNs Submitted August 31, 2016

HCP Number	HCP Name	FRN	Form 465 Application Number	Allowable Contract Selection Date (ACSD)
28296	Southside Community Services Board	1688066	43161941	April 16, 2016
30947	Southside Community Services Board	1688063	43162477	May 5, 2016
38311	Southside Community Services Board – HDTC/CSP South Boston	1688069	43161942	April 16, 2016
38319	Southside Community Services Board – MCSP South Hill	1688068	43161943	April 16, 2016

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APPENDIX B Southside Community Services Board FY 2016 FRNs Submitted November 4, 2016

HCP Number	HCP Name	FRN	Form 465 Application Number	Allowable Contract Selection Date (ACSD)
28296	Southside Community Services Board	1694413	43161941	April 16, 2016
30947	Southside Community Services Board	1694411	43162477	May 5, 2016
38311	Southside Community Services Board – HDTC/CSP South Boston	1694417	43161942	April 16, 2016
38319	Southside Community Services Board – MCSP South Hill	1694415	43161943	April 16, 2016